

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

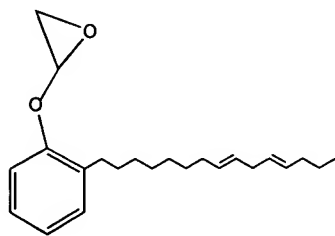
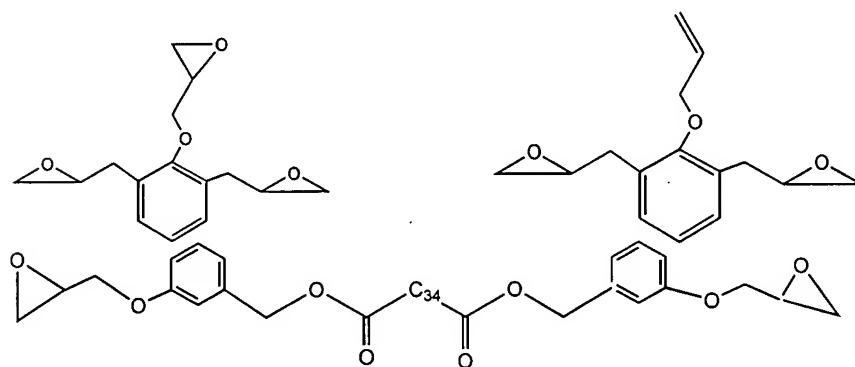
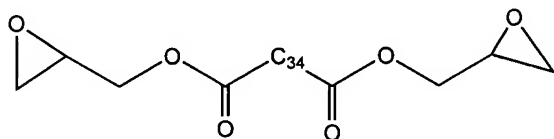
Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended). A B-stageable underfill encapsulant, wherein the encapsulant solidifies during the B-stage process to produce a smooth, non-tacky surface on a semiconductor wafer or silicon chip and wherein the encapsulant comprises:

- a) a thermal curable resin;
- b) an imidazole-anhydride adduct;
- c) at least one solvent;
- d) one or more fluxing agents; and
- e) optionally, one or more of the group comprising surfactants, wetting agents, defoaming agents, coupling agents, inorganic fillers, reactive diluents, adhesion promoters, flow additives, air release agents, and mixtures thereof,

wherein the imidazole-anhydride adduct comprises an adduct of 2-phenyl-4-methyl imidazole and pyromellitic dianhydride.

2. (previously presented). The encapsulant of claim 1, wherein the thermal curable resin is selected from the group consisting of monofunctional and multifunctional glycidyl ethers of Bisphenol-A, monofunctional and multifunctional glycidyl ethers of Bisphenol-F, aliphatic epoxies, aromatic epoxies, saturated epoxies, unsaturated epoxies, cycloaliphatic epoxy resins, epoxies having the structures



and mixtures thereof.

3. (currently amended). The encapsulant of claim 2, wherein the thermal curable resin is selected from the group consisting of 3,4-epoxycyclohexylmethyl-3,4-epoxycyclohexane carboxylate,

vinylcyclohexene dioxide, 3,4-epoxy-6-methyl cyclohexyl methyl-3,4-epoxycyclohexane carboxylate, dicyclopentadiene dioxide, bisphenol A epoxy resin, bisphenol F epoxy type resin, epoxy novolac resin, poly(phenyl glycidyl ether)-co-formaldehyde, biphenyl type epoxy resin, dicyclopentadiene-phenol epoxy resins, naphthalene epoxy resins, epoxy functional butadiene acrylonitrile copolymers, epoxy functional polydimethyl siloxane, and mixtures thereof.

4. (previously presented). The encapsulant of claim 3 wherein the thermal curable resin comprises in the range of about 20 wt % to about 90 wt % of the encapsulant.

5. (previously presented). The encapsulant of claim 5, wherein the thermal curable resin comprises in the range of about 20 wt % to about 80 wt % of the encapsulant.

6. (cancelled).

7. (cancelled).

8. (currently amended). The encapsulant of claim 1 ~~claim 7~~, wherein the imidazole-anhydride adduct is synthesized by combining 1 mole part 1,2,4,5-benzenetetracarboxylic dianhydride and 2 mole part 2-phenyl-4-methylimidazole.

9. (currently amended). The encapsulant of claim 1 ~~claim 6~~, wherein the imidazole-anhydride adduct comprises in the range of about 0.01 wt % to about 10 wt % of the encapsulant.

10. (previously presented). The encapsulant of claim 9, wherein the imidazole-anhydride adduct comprises in the range of about 0.1 wt % to about 5 wt % of the encapsulant.

11. (previously presented). The encapsulant of claim 1, wherein the at least one solvent is selected from the group comprising solvents that are stable and dissolve the epoxy resins in the composition.

12. (currently amended). The encapsulant of claim 11, wherein the at least one solvent is selected from the group consisting of ketones, esters, alcohols, ethers, γ -butyrolactone and propylene glycol methyl ether ~~ethyl~~ acetate (PGMEA) and mixtures thereof.

13. (currently amended). The encapsulant of claim 12, wherein the at least one solvent is selected from the group consisting of γ -butyrolactone, propylene glycol methyl ether ~~ethyl~~ acetate (PGMEA) and mixtures thereof.

14. (currently amended). The encapsulant of claim 11, wherein the solvent comprises ~~in~~ up to about 80 wt % of the encapsulant.

15. (cancelled).

16. (previously presented). The encapsulant of claim 1 wherein the at least one fluxing agent is selected from the group consisting of carboxylic acids, rosin gum, dodecanedioic acid, adipic acid, sebacic acid, polysebacic polyanhydride, maleic acid, tartaric acid, citric acid, alcohols, hydroxyl acid and hydroxyl base, polyols, ethylene glycol, glycerol, 3-[bis(glycidyl oxy methyl) methoxy]-1,2-propane diol, D-ribose, D-cellobiose, cellulose, 3-cyclohexene-1,1-dimethanol, and mixtures thereof.

17. (previously presented). The encapsulant of claim 16, wherein the at least one flux agent comprises rosin gum, dodecanedioic acid, adipic acid, or mixtures thereof.

18. (previously presented). The encapsulant of claim 17, wherein the at least one flux agent comprises in the range of about 0.5 wt % to about 20 wt % of the encapsulant.

19. (previously presented). The encapsulant of claim 18, wherein the at least one flux agent comprises in the range of about 1 wt % to about 10 wt % of the encapsulant.

20. (previously presented). The encapsulant of claim 1, wherein the encapsulant further comprises one or more of group consisting of surfactants, wetting agents, defoaming agents, coupling agents, inorganic fillers, reactive diluents, adhesion promoters, flow additives, air release agents, and mixtures thereof.

21. (previously presented). The encapsulant of claim 20, wherein the surfactant is selected from the group consisting of organic acrylic polymers, silicones, epoxy-silicones, polyoxyethylene/polyoxypropylene block copolymers, ethylene diamine based polyoxyethylene/polyoxypropylene block copolymers, polyol-based polyoxyalkylenes, fatty alcohol-based polyoxyalkylenes, fatty alcohol polyoxyalkylene alkyl ethers and mixtures thereof.

22. (cancelled).

23. (cancelled)..

24. (currently amended). A silicon wafer having a B-stageable underfill composition deposited on one face of the wafer, the B-stageable composition comprising

- a) a thermal curable resin;
- b) an imidazole-anhydride adduct;
- c) at least one solvent;
- d) one or more fluxing agents; and

e) optionally, one or more additive selected from the group consisting of surfactants, wetting agents, defoaming agents, coupling agents, inorganic fillers, reactive diluents, adhesion promoters, flow additives, air release agents, and mixtures thereof,
wherein the imidazole-anhydride adduct comprises an adduct of 2-phenyl-4-methyl imidazole and pyromellitic dianhydride.

25. (previously presented). A method of preparing one or more silicon chips, comprising the steps of

- a) applying the encapsulant of claim 1 to a semiconductor wafer;
- b) B-stage processing the encapsulant on the semiconductor wafer so that the encapsulant solidifies into a smooth, non-tacky coating; and
- c) dicing the semiconductor wafer into individual silicon chips.

26. (previously presented). The method of claim 25, wherein the encapsulant is applied to the semiconductor wafer via spin coating, screen printing or stencil printing.

27. (previously presented). A method of preparing an electronic package comprising the steps of

- a) applying the encapsulant of claim 1 to a semiconductor wafer;
- b) B-stage processing the encapsulant on the semiconductor wafer so that the encapsulant solidifies into a smooth, non-tacky coating;
- c) dicing the semiconductor wafer into multiple silicon chips, with each chip having a first side coated with the encapsulant;
- d) placing one or more silicon chips on a substrate so that the first side of the silicon chip is adjacent to the substrate; and
- e) heating the one or more silicon chips and substrate to a temperature sufficient to form interconnections between the one or more silicon chips and the substrate.

28. (previously presented). The method of claim 27, comprising the additional step of placing an unfilled liquid curable fluxing material on the substrate before the silicon chip is placed on the substrate.

29. (currently amended). The method of claim 28, wherein the unfilled liquid curable fluxing material comprises

- a) a thermal curable epoxy resin;
- b) an imidazole-anhydride adduct; and
- c) at least one fluxing agent,

wherein the imidazole-anhydride adduct comprises an adduct of 2-phenyl-4-methyl imidazole and pyromellitic dianhydride.

30. (cancelled).

31. (cancelled).